



nottdance08 – General Press release

The UK's only festival of experimental dance and performance returns in October for the 17th year. nottdance08 takes place in venues across Nottingham city centre from 17 – 26 October, whilst breaking geographic confines for its first ever visit to London in partnership with Siobhan Davies Dance.

Following a sell-out 2007 festival, producers Dance4 continue their commitment to make experimental performance accessible and engaging. This year it was decided to open its programme up to the public. Fully exploring the notion of choice, nottdance08 invited groups of audience members, young people and 3 international artists to choose the work that would be presented in the festival.

The audience panel, made up of festival veterans, relative newcomers and complete first timers spent a day in a studio in Nottingham watching DVD's, discussing the work and their response to it. All supported by the festival producers, Dance4, the panel came to a unanimous decision to present the brilliant Kate McIntosh (New Zealand) whose piece opens the festival on Friday 17 October at the Sandfield Theatre. *All Natural* is a powerful solo performance that flickers between stand-up comedy and a Vegas dance routine.

"She has such strong stage presence, she's kind of sassy yet dirty, feminine and masculine, she plays with all these stereotypes." Audience Panel Quote

Continuing the theme, a group of young people aged 16 – 19, were brought together for the same process. After lengthy debate about the options they too came to a unanimous decision to present a double bill of work from emerging choreographer Gabriele Reuter (UK/Germany) and established artist Mustafa Kaplan (Turkey). Gabriele's show, a world premiere, is a charming, humorous and honest solo that demonstrates a personal journey across a completely empty stage.

Gabriele is followed by Mustafa Kaplan and Sek Sek, described by Migrations Festival Wales as *"one of the most innovative choreographers to have emerged from Turkey"*. Together with his collaborators he has developed an intense work of physicality, energy and risk. The double bill takes place on Tuesday 21 October.

"nottdance should be accessible to young people and everyone. When you see it, it opens your eyes." Young Peoples panel quote.

Artists with whom nottdance has a relationship were also invited to curate an evening of work. Maria La Ribot (Spain) is an internationally recognised dancer and choreographer whose work *Distinguished Pieces* really secured her fame. She selected artist Juan Dominguez (Spain) and describes him as *"somewhere between the Spanish baroque chevalier's madness and a geometrical, mathematical thinker – his work appears as the brilliant result of this improbably equation."* His show *All*

Good Spies are My Age will be presented at Lakeside Arts Centre on Saturday 18 October.

The second artist as curator, Alain Buffard (France), first came to nottdance in 2006, returning in 2007 with the UK premiere of *(Not) a Love Song* and *Good Boy*. He selected Vincent Dupont (France), as an artist he feels is unique in the field of choreography today. *Hauts Cris (Minature)* takes place on Saturday 25 October and is an engaging, yet intense and visually arresting show that will appeal to festival newcomers as much as the regulars.

Jonathan Burrows (UK) is a performer who has toured the world with amongst other things a trilogy in collaboration with musician Matteo Fargion. A regular on the London dance scene he is a staunch supporter of nottdance and was keen to get the opportunity to work with the festival in this new way. He selected *Nine Finger* a three-hand performance from Belgium performers Fumiyo Ikeda, Benjamin Verdonck and Alain Platel (Director of Ballet c de la b, performing at Sadlers Wells in Early October.)

Nine Finger is a piece inspired by writer Uzodinma Iweala and his book *Beasts of No Nation*. Tackling the political in a way that dance rarely manages, Jonathan cites *Nine Finger* as a must see for dance and theatre lovers alike. Sunday 26 October.

Other performances include *Store* a show that proves art really is for everyone as the audience act as shopper when offered a menu to peruse, from which they can choose from over 60 movements, actions or behaviours costing from 50p - £6.00. A personal and unique experience for every shopper it plays with the idea of a successful business chain and takes place in a temporary shop in the city centre.

Miguel Pereira (Portugal) and Israel Galvan (Spain) come together on a unique improvisation bill on Friday 24 October. Israel performed at Sadlers Wells Flamenco festival earlier in the year and is renowned for challenging the tradition of his art form. Miguel, known around the world for provoking accepted codes of both making and presenting work has not been to nottdance since 2003. Both artists will perform in an evening in which there is no pre-destined outcome.

nottdance in London, the first time the festival ventures out of Nottingham and in to the Capital, sees a UK premiere performance from Thomas Lehmen (Germany) at Siobhan Davies Studios on Friday 24 October. His latest piece, *Heromatik* was commissioned by Dance4 and created during a residency and work in progress performance in 2007. In addition to this performance, nottdance in London will also see a series of 'sharings' from artists taking part in an international dialogue programme in which 12 emerging artists (4 x UK, 4 x Holland and 4 x Romania) come together to exchange ideas and experiences under the guidance of mentors Thomas Lehmen and LIFT co-founder Rose Fenton.

The rest of the festival line up includes dialogues, symposiums, post-show discussions, pre-show introduction to experimental performance and the return of Pay What You Think, an opportunity for audiences to decide how much they wish to pay at the end of the show.

nottdance08 is supported by Arts Council England, Nottinghamshire County Council, Nottingham City Council and The Foyle Foundation. For full festival details, a festival

brochure, complimentary press tickets, travel and accommodation discounts, please contact anna@dance4.co.uk or call 0115 941 0773 / 07816 783 857

-ENDS-

-LISTINGS-

Kate McIntosh (New Zealand / Belgium)

All Natural

Date: Friday 17 October

Time: 8pm

Venue: Sandfield Theatre

Audience Panel's choice

Juan Domínguez (Spain)

All Good spies are my age

UK premiere

Date: Saturday 18 October

Time: 8pm

Venue: Lakeside Arts Centre

Artist curator: Maria La Ribot's choice

DOUBLE BILL- Young People's choice

Gabriele Reuter (Germany/UK)

Inventory/(Räumung)

World premiere

Taldans (Turkey)

Mustafa Kaplan and Filiz Sizanli

Sek Sek

Date: Tuesday 21 October

Time: 8pm

Venue: Lakeside Arts Centre

Improvisation evening

Miguel Pereira/Israel Galvan

Date: Friday 24 October

Time: 8pm

Venue: Lakeside Arts Centre

Vincent Dupont (France)

Hauts Cris (miniature)

UK premiere

Date: Saturday 25 October

Time: 8pm

Venue: Sandfield Theatre

Artist curator: Alain Buffard's choice

Fumiyo Ikeda, Alain Platel, Benjamin Verdonck (Belgium)

Nine Finger

UK premiere

Date: Sunday 26 October

Time: 6.30pm
Venue: Lakeside Arts Centre
Artist curator: Jonathon Burrow's choice

store

Matsune & Subal Production (Japan/Austria)

UK premiere

Date: Thursday 23 – Saturday 25 October

Time: 11am - 2pm / 3pm - 6pm

Venue: A top secret venue in the centre of Nottingham – details to be announced!

Artist sharings

Artists taking part are:

UK: Athina Vahla, Frauke Requardt, Lucy Cash, Jiva Parthpan

The Netherlands: Jack Gallagher, Tabea Martin, Jenny Beyer, Pia Meuthen

Romania: Carmen Cotofana, Alexandra Pirici, Eduard Gabia , Ana Costea

Saturday 18 October

Venue: Siobhan Davies Studios, London

Time: 7.30pm

Monday 20 October, Wednesday 22 October and Thursday 23 October

Venue: Sandfield Theatre, Nottingham

Time: 8pm

-EVENTS IN LONDON-

Thomas Lehmen (Germany)

Heromatik

UK premiere

Date: Friday 24 October

Time: 7.30pm

Venue: Siobhan Davies Studios, London

Tuesday 21 October

Independent Dance

Crossing Borders

Venue: Siobhan Davies Studios, London

The Witness as Dramaturg

Artist Symposium

Martin del Amo (Australia)

Richard Hancock (UK/US)

Traci Kelly (UK)

& guest speakers

Saturday 25 October

Venue: Arts Admin, Toynbee Studios, London

-ADDITIONAL INFORMATION-

nottdance has been established since 1991 and is recognised across Europe and the rest of the world as the only festival of its kind in the UK, offering artists and choreographers a unique platform in which to present experimental dance and performance work.

The festival is produced by national dance agency Dance4, a Nottingham based organisation responsible for the development of artists and art form across the East Midlands region.

The festival is one small part of an overall annual programme of learning, education, community, touring, festival and performance work. Operating both strategically and in delivery, Dance4 strives to support genuinely innovative work.